

## Message Text

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42

ORIGIN NEA-05

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DRAFTED BY: NEA/EGY: MSTERNER

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R 041713Z SEP 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 175323

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO TRIPOLI, TEL AVIV, ALGIERS,  
TUNIS, AMMAN, BEIRUT AFROM PARIS AUG 31 REPEATED  
YOU:

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 23275

DEPT PASS USINT CAIRO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, LY, EG

SUBJECT: LIBYAN-EGYPTIAN UNION

1. QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR NORTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS DE WARREN  
AUGUST 31 GAVE EMBOFF PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF FRENCH EMBASSIES  
CAIRO AND TRIPOLI ON ANNOUNCEMENT OF UNION OF LIBYA AND EGYPT.  
BOTH MISSIONS AGREED THAT OUTCOME OF QADHAFI VISIT TO CAIRO WAS  
DRAMATIC VICTORY FOR SADAT. ALTHOUGH COMMUNIQUE PUBLISHED AT  
END OF MEETING CONTAINED MUCH STANDARD LIBYAN RHETORIC,  
PARTICULARLY ON ARAB CAUSES AND RIGHTS OF PALESTINIANS, ON  
SUBSTANTIVE AND INSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS SADAT WON OUT.  
REFERENDUM WILL NOT TAKE PLACE SEPTEMBER 2 AND ACTUAL UNION  
IS PUT OFF FOR INDEFINITE PERIOD.

2. FRENCH EMBASSY CAIRO NOTED ATMOSPHERE OF "TRIUMPH AND  
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SURPRISE" AMONG EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS AND PUBLIC, BUT CONSIDERABLE

DISAPPOINTMENT AMONG ARAB LEAGUE OFFICIALS WITH WHOM THEY IN CONTACT. ON OTHER HAND AMBASSADOR GEORGY IN TRIPOLI, WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING THAT SADAT HAS EMERGED VICTORIOUS, REPORTS THAT ON HIS RETURN FROM CAIRO QADHAFI HAD BEEN "RADIANT". LIBYANS, HE FEELS, TAKING CONSIDERABLE COMFORT FROM FACT THAT WHAT HAS BEEN AGREED TO IN PRINCIPLE IS FUSION NOT FEDERATION, AND THAT IMPORTANT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE ON ECONOMIC ISSUES SUCH AS CREATION OF FREE TRADE AREA AND NEW UNIT OF ACCOUNT. GEORGY FEELS THAT ALTHOUGH RESULTS LOOKED AT FROM OUTSIDE ARE DEFEAT FOR QADHAFI, HIS POSITION ON INTERNAL SCENE NOT SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECTED. PRIMARY DOMESTIC PREOCCUPATIONS OF LARG REMAIN DIFFERENCES WITH PETROLEUM COMPANIES.

3. DE WARREN SAID THAT OUTCOME OF SADAT-QADHAFI NEGOTIATIONS HAD BEEN RECEIVED WITH SIGN OF RELIEF IN FRENCH GOVERNMENT CIRCLES. AS GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN MADE CLEAR FOLLOWING AUGUST 30 CABINET MEETING, NO MODIFICATION IN FRENCH ARMS SUPPLY POLICY NECESSARY. FRENCH HAVE CONCLUDED THAT NO UNION HAS TAKEN PLACE NOR FOR FORESEEABLE FUTURE IS LIKELY TO TAKE PLACE, AND HENCE ISSUE OF RESTRICTIVE TRANSFER PROVISIONS OF MIRAGE SUPPLY CONTRACT NOT IN QUESTION.

STONE

UNQUOTE RUSH

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